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Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 09/859,542
Docket No.: 14535-US-PA

REMARKS**Present Status of the Application**

The Office Action rejected claims 1 and 3-7. Specifically, the Office Action rejected claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matono et al. (U. S. Patent 6,344,857; hereinafter Matono) in view of Takayama (U. S. Patent 6,317,157). In addition, the Office Action rejected claims 4-7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matono in view of Takayama and Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA). Claims 1 and 3-7 remain pending in the present application, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

Discussion of Claim Rejections under 35 USC 103

The Office Action rejected claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matono in view of Takayama. The Office Action rejected claims 4-7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matono in view of Takayama and AAPA. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections for at least the reasons set forth below.

1. The Office Action in "*Examiner's Response*" has referred to col. 5, lines 36-44 of Matono and stated that "the gamma correction of Matono is performed independently, and nowhere can the Examiner find that Matono discloses that the anti-compensation is performed based on the relation between the R. G. B. components". And therefore, the Office Action remains rejections on the present invention.

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2. However, Applicants respectively disagree. First of all, Applicants want to emphasize that *"gamma correction" is relating to the step (a) in independent claim 1. The "gamma correction" is not equal to the "anti compensation process", which is relating to steps (b) and (c).*

Applicants emphasize that Matono does not disclose the "anti-compensation process", and certainly Matono does not disclose the "anti-compensation process" based on gray level. *The gray level is the parameter relating to the brightness but not color in R, G, and B components.*

Matono clearly discloses that the gamma correction circuit is for R, G, and B systems. Matono in col. 5, lines 36-44 states:

In the foregoing description, an example in which correction of the gamma characteristic is conducted for the R system has been shown. It is also possible to provide gamma correction circuits for the G system and the B system as well and conduct gamma correction for the R, G and B systems respectively and independently. Alternatively, it is also possible to use one gamma correction circuit and provide the three systems of R, G and B with the same gamma characteristic (Emphasis added).

As mentioned above, the "gamma correction" is not equal to the "anti-compensation process". Matono failed to disclose the anti-compensation operation. With at least the same reasons, Matono failed to disclose the anti-compensation operation (step c in claim 1), which is based on the gray level (step b in claim 1).

3. In re Takayama, Takayama discloses the image conversion apparatus. In Fig. 1 (Abstract; col. 6, lines 16-27), the first gamma correction 100 performs the inverse gamma correction on the input video signal, so as to invert (*or remove*, see Abstract) the inverse gamma

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property in the video signal. The second gamma correction 102 applies the gamma correction on the video signal in order to provide the video signal with the inverse gamma property (specifically, col. 6, lines 22-27). In other words, *the first gamma correction circuit 100 and the second gamma correction circuit 102 are not the anti-compensation process of the present invention.* Takayama also failed to supply the missing features in Mantono to achieve the present invention.

4. With respect to claim 3, the third gamma is further used in the anti compensation process for the segments in the range of the second gray level.

5. Mantono and Takayama either alone or in combination do not disclose the full features as recited in independent claim 1 and dependent claim 3.

6. With respect to claims 4-7, with at least the foregoing reasons applied to independent claim 1, Mantono and Takayama failed to disclose the features in claims 4-7.

AAPA does not disclose the anti compensation process as recited in dependent claims 4-7, and does not provide the missing features in Mantono and Takayama.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 patently defines over the prior art references, and should be allowed. For at least the same reasons, dependent claims 3-7 patently define over the prior art references as well.

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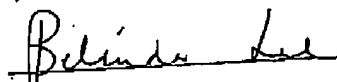
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending claims 1 and 3-7 of the invention patently define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,



Belinda Lee

Registration No.: 46,863

Jiang Chyun Intellectual Property Office
7th Floor-1, No. 100
Roosevelt Road, Section 2
Taipei, 100
Taiwan
Tel: 011-886-2-2369-2800
Fax: 011-886-2-2369-7233
Email: belinda@jcipgroup.com.tw
Usa@jcipgroup.com.tw